



Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission
30 South Meridian Street
Suite 500
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232-4706

APPLICATION
FOR THE
INDIANA SUPREME COURT

I. Provide your:

A. Full legal name and any former names.

Mary Beth Bonaventura

B. Current home and office addresses, including email addresses and telephone numbers.

Home

Office

Lake County Juvenile Justice Center
3000 W. 93rd Avenue
Crown Point, Indiana 46307
(219) 660-6964

C. Date and place of birth.

July 12, 1954

East Chicago, Lake County, IN

D. Complete a State Police release form printed on green paper. Include the release only with the original application and not with the copies.

A State Police release was executed and submitted, per instruction, on June 11, 2010.

II. Attach a recent photograph of you to the front of the original application and to each copy of your application.

A recent photograph is attached to this original application and to each copy.

- III. A. State in what county you currently reside and since what date.

I have been a lifelong resident of Lake County, Indiana.

- B. List all previous counties of residence, with dates.

<u>County</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Marion County, IN	1972 – 1974, 1975 – 1977
Dekalb County, IL	1978 – 1981

- C. When were you admitted to the Indiana Bar?

I was admitted to the Indiana Bar on October 12, 1981.

- D. Are you currently on active status?

Yes, I am on active status and am an attorney in good standing.

- E. What is your attorney number?

3909-45

- IV. A. List below all colleges and universities you attended other than law schools. Attach a certified transcript from each to the original application and attach copies of each transcript to each application copy. (If your social security number is on your transcripts, redact it before copying.)

<u>School</u>	<u>Dates Enrolled</u>	<u>Degree or Certificate</u>
Marian University	1972 - 1974, 1975 - 1977	Bachelor of Arts
Indiana University, Northwest	1974 - 1975	
	1976 (summer semester)	

- B. List below all law schools and post-J.D. programs attended. Attach a certified transcript from each to the original application and attach copies of each transcript to each application copy. (If your social security number is on your transcripts, redact it before copying.)

<u>School</u>	<u>Dates Enrolled</u>	<u>Degree and Class Rank</u>
Northern Illinois University School of Law	1978 – 1981	Juris Doctorate, Ranked 68 of 142 Certificate
Indiana Judicial College	1998	

C. Describe any academic honors, awards, and scholarships you received and when.

- V. A. Provide your employment history since graduation from college, including titles or positions, locations, and dates.

Lake Superior Court, Crown Point, IN
Senior Judge, Juvenile Division 1993 - Present

Chief Judge, Lake Superior Court, Lake County, IN 1996 – 1998

Lake Superior Court, Crown Point, IN
Magistrate, Juvenile Division 1982 - 1993

Bank Calumet, Hammond, Indiana
Board Member 2003 - 2006

Security Federal Savings Bank, St. John, IN
Board Chair 1996 - 2003
Board Member 1994 - 1996

Office of the Lake County Prosecutor, Crown Point, IN
Deputy Prosecutor 1981 - 1982

Lake County Court, Division II, Crown Point, IN
Probation Officer 1977 - 1978

B. If applicable, describe the nature and extent of your practice of law, present and former, and provide the names of your partners, associates, office mates, and employers.

Upon law school graduation, I was employed as a deputy prosecutor representing the State of Indiana in Class D felonies, misdemeanors and traffic cases. My supervisor was the Honorable Calvin Hawkins, who was then the Chief Deputy Prosecutor for Gary City Court. Today, having been appointed by Governor Daniels in 2008, the Honorable Calvin Hawkins sits as Judge of the Lake Superior Court, Civil Division 2. As a deputy prosecutor, I handled a daily call of approximately one hundred (100) cases involving arraignments, plea negotiations, plea submissions and bench trials. Although multiple cases were scheduled for jury trial, each and every jury trial scheduled eventually was tried at the bench or disposed by plea. Nonetheless, this work afforded me a valuable education in jury trial preparation. Additionally, I obtained hands-on experience in the day-to-day operations of a high volume court and the everyday litigation of criminal matters. This experience has served me well as a magistrate and a judge. Remembering my

— expectations and, frankly, my exasperations as a deputy prosecutor has made me a more insightful, well-rounded judge.

C. Describe the extent of your jury experience, if any.

Although, during my tenure as a deputy prosecutor, I had many jury trials scheduled, none went to trial. In juvenile court, excepting paternity cases, juvenile jurisdiction does not afford litigants rights to trial by jury. Because science has all but eliminated contests concerning paternities, I have not had jury trial experience since taking the bench in juvenile court.

D. If applicable, describe the nature and extent of your judicial experience, including a description of your experience presiding over jury trials, if any.

For twenty-eight (28) of my twenty-nine (29) years as a lawyer, I have been on the bench in the Juvenile Court of Lake County as either a Magistrate or as Senior Judge. Therefore, my primary judicial experiences involve juvenile matters. In twenty-eight (28) years, I have presided in well over 100,000 cases. Juvenile Court has statutory jurisdiction over Paternities, Children in Need of Services (CHINS) cases, Termination of Parental Rights cases and Delinquencies. Additionally, by local rule, the Lake County Juvenile Court exercises jurisdiction in all minor guardianships, adoptions and protective orders.

The Judge of the Juvenile Court in Lake County is in the unique position of being responsible for not only the daily operation of the Court, but also for the 24-hour a day operation of the Lake County Juvenile Detention Center. In addition to hearing cases, I oversee, and am responsible for, hiring staff for both the Court and the Detention Center. Currently we have 206 employees consisting of magistrates, referees, probation officers, court reporters, bailiffs, secretaries, detention officers, security officers, housekeepers, cooks, nurses, doctors, psychologists, therapists and Court Appointed Special Advocates. I am responsible for the hiring, training, supervising and disciplining of this staff. I also have direct responsibility for, and I prepare and present annually, the comprehensive Court, Detention Center and CASA Program budget. This annual budget exceeds eight million (\$8,000,000.00) dollars.

— Additionally, I have presided over numerous Special Judge cases. These cases have presented a wide variety of legal claims and issues including, but certainly not limited to, divorces, land condemnation suits, small claims matters, and election contests. Because I believe that judges have a responsibility to serve both the legal system and the community by taking up these usually difficult, special cases, I have always welcomed Special Judge assignments for the challenges they present and for the opportunity they offer to sharpen my judicial skills and broaden my legal horizons.

As Judge, I personally preside over all Termination of Parental Rights cases, from initial hearing to trial. I also personally hear each and every CHINS initial hearing. This is an interesting and significant trial responsibility. In the past five years, I have heard well over 1400 termination cases, fifty (50%) percent of which were disposed by bench trial. Concerning CHINS initial hearings, nearly 1000 new cases were filed in my court in 2009, and I personally presided at the initial hearing in each of these cases. I also take the bench and hear other matters whenever circumstances require. Because of my administrative duties, my courtroom time is typically confined to three days per week, leaving two days for the business of operating the second largest court system in the State.

VI. A. If applicable, list by caption, case number, and filing date up to five of your trial or appellate briefs and/or written judicial opinions.

1. *G.V. v. Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.*, Cause No.: 45D05-9502-CP-350, February 15, 1995.
2. *Anderson v. Riga*, Cause No.: 45C01-0305-MI-00067, May 2003 (Special Judge Appointment June 11, 2003).
3. *In Re the Matter of A.F.B.*, Cause No.: 45D06-9705-JP-000466, September 22, 2004 (Petition for grandparent visitation rights filed).
4. *In Re the Matters of A.S., H.S., T.S.*, Cause Nos.: 45D06-0608-JT-000079, 45D06-0608-JT-000080, 45D06-0608-JT-000079, August 14, 2006
In Re the Matter of K.S., Cause No.: 45D06-0706-JT-000117, June 15, 2007.
5. *In the Matter of M.W.M., D.M.M., D.E.M.*, Cause Nos.: 45D06-0802-JT-000185; 45D06-0802-JT-000184; 45D06-0802-JT-000183, February 21, 2008

B. If applicable, list up to five legislative drafts or court rules you have written or to which you contributed significantly. Refer to them by official citation, by date, and by subject matter.

I have made significant contributions to the following legislation:

1. IC 31-32-2-2.5; IC 31-37-8-4.5, July 1, 2007

Provides protection from self-incrimination for juveniles during mental health screenings, assessments, and evaluations or during treatment which is ordered or otherwise provided by the Juvenile Court, probation or during the juvenile intake process.

2. IC 4-23-30.2, July 1, 2009

Authorizes the creation of a multidisciplinary board to facilitate the coordination of programs serving vulnerable individuals

3. IC 12-15-20.4, January 1, 2010

IC 31-37-22-9

IC 31-37-19-28

Provides for the suspension, rather than termination, of a child's eligibility for Medicaid upon his delinquency adjudication and dispositional placement in a community-based correctional facility for children, a juvenile detention facility or a secured facility, but not including those facilities licensed as a child caring institution

4. IC 5-2-6-3, July 1, 2010

Authorizes the creation of a work group which shall, after due study, make legislative recommendations concerning law enforcement training and curricula relating to juvenile policing in and outside of schools

C. If applicable, list up to five of your contributions to legal journals or other legal publications. Provide titles, official citations, and a brief description of the subject matter.

D. Include with your application copies of any four of the written materials listed above in Section VI. A., B., and C.

Please see appendix for:

1. Order, *G.V. v. Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.*, Cause No.: 45D05-9502-CP-350, July 2, 1998 (*surnames redacted to protect the confidentiality of minor*).
2. Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, *Anderson v. Riga*, Cause No.: 45C01-0305-MI-00067, September 5, 2003.
3. Order, *In Re the Matter of A.F.B.*, Cause No.: 45D06-9705-JP-000466, August 5, 2004 (*surnames redacted to protect the confidentiality of minor*).
4. Order on Petition to Terminate Parental Rights, *In the Matter of M.W.M., D.M.M., D.E.M.*, Cause Nos.: 45D06-0802-JT-000185; 45D06-0802-JT-000184; 45D06-0802-JT-000183, April 9, 2009 (*surnames redacted to protect the confidentiality of minor*).

E. Describe the nature and extent of any *pro bono* legal services you have contributed.

As a judicial officer, I am prohibited from the private practice of law.

F. Identify the five most significant legal matters entrusted to you whether as a judge or lawyer, and describe why you believe them to be so.

I have had, throughout my professional career, the honor and privilege to serve the citizens of Lake County, most particularly the children. Looking back, identifying the five most significant legal matters entrusted to me as a juvenile court judge is a daunting task. It is made so because each and every juvenile case - be it a step-parent adoption, a child abuse case, or a case concerning a child charged with a crime - is significant, is life-directing, if not life-defining, for the child involved. Everything, from the court's atmosphere and environment, to the staff's temperament and talent; everything, from the sense of procedural fairness afforded, to the disposition of the legal matter; everything about a child's juvenile court experience can directly guide that child into adulthood, and should help mold that child into the adult he or she will be. It is a humbling responsibility to serve the children of Lake County and I have approached my charge with a heartfelt conviction that each case is the most significant case because each child is the most significant child.

1. *Lake County Superior Court, Juvenile Division v. Lake County Board of Commissioners, et al.*, Cause No.: 45D06-9602-JM-00841-0, February 22, 1996.

Any retrospective of my work, I believe, must consider *Lake County Superior Court, Juvenile Division v. Lake County Board of Commissioners, et al.*, Cause No.: 45D06-9602-JM-00841-0, February 22, 1996. In this matter, on behalf of the Juvenile Court, I issued an order of mandate requiring Lake County to appropriate and pay \$14,750,000.00 to construct and furnish a new Juvenile Courthouse attached to the current Lake County Juvenile Detention Center in Crown Point, Indiana, and to construct and furnish a sixty-four (64) bed addition to the Detention Center. At the time of mandate, I had served as Senior Judge of the Court for less than three years. However, my time with the court exceeded thirteen (13) years and I was well aware that the current court and detention facilities were old, inadequate, decaying and unsafe.

At that time, the Juvenile Court was housed in the Superior Court Building in Gary, Indiana. This structure was built in 1926 and had undergone no capital improvements for more than thirteen (13) years. Hundreds of people crowded into an 80' x 9 1/2' corridor with seating for only thirty (30) that served as a waiting room, conference room, holding cell and hallway. Adults in shackles sat next to abused

— children, next to disgruntled parents, next to attorneys trying to conference with clients. The situation was volatile, without decorum or security.

Crowded conditions were made more intolerable by the physical conditions of the building. Ceilings in the holding room, conference room and in various courtrooms, were constantly leaking, dripping, cracking and actually falling. We had an insufficient number of courtrooms and I convened court in a jury room furnished with a folding table and chair. Ceiling fixtures did not work; there were holes in walls and ceilings; constantly water pipes and sewage pipes leaked; and the building was full of asbestos and lead paint. Without question or doubt, the conditions were an abomination, a disgrace to the judicial system and the citizens of Lake County, and demeaned the basic human dignity and worth of all children, families, witnesses, court officers and others who were required to appear in the Court.

Upon my appointment as Judge, I sought solutions, engaged in discussions, participated in studies, proposed alternatives and, simply, went about the serious business of insuring that Lake County's Juvenile Court became a safe, secure environment conducive to the important business of the Court. However, after two years without success, the mandate became necessary and the mandate was filed.

On December 23, 2000, with shovel in hand, I had the honor of breaking ground for the Lake County Juvenile Justice Complex. Almost four years had passed since the mandate was issued. The county had resisted, contesting everything from building site chosen to the architect named. Litigation ensued. The issues were tried and, on March 18, 1998, Special Judge David P. Matsey found, without exception, for the Lake Superior Court and the children of Lake County.

In August 2002, the Lake County Juvenile Justice Complex opened its doors to provide a continuum of care to the children and families it serves throughout Lake County. Completed on time and one million dollars under budget, our Complex combines a state-of-the-art court with a 24 hour, 148 bed security detention facility. The Lake County Juvenile Justice Complex is home to 206 employees and is where well over six thousand (6000) children come annually looking for guidance, seeking assistance, and needing a little help upon their way. Prospectively, this building – this brick and mortar – may be my most significant contribution to the lives of the children in this community. We now have a home where serious, talented people can safely labor in the best interests of our children. We also have a home that is worthy of the work we do.

2. *Anderson v. Riga, et al.*, Cause No. 45C01-0305-MI-00067, September 5, 2003.

— Although my judicial experience has primarily focused upon families, children and their issues, in May 2003, I was called to sit as Special Judge in *Anderson v. Riga*, an election contest and recount. The issue at hand was the propriety of the May 6, 2003, Democratic primary election for Judge of Schererville, Indiana. During that

primary, Schererville voters duly considered and cast their votes for one of four candidates. A total of 2,362 votes were cast in this election either by citizens exercising their franchise at the polls or by citizens casting absentee ballots. While Petitioner Anderson defeated Respondent Riga by eighty (80) votes in ballots cast at the polls, after consideration of the absentee vote, Respondent Riga won the election by eleven (11) votes. The results of the vote were initially certified by the Lake County Election Board and, after recount, by the Recount Commission. Petitioner Anderson then filed his Petition for Election Recount and Election Contest.

The crux of this interesting case was the legitimacy of twenty-three (23) absentee ballots. After three days of trial, the evidence showed that twenty-three (23) citizens, the majority of whom were honest, well-meaning individuals, had their votes swindled by the illegal activities of a precinct committeeman. Because of advanced age, infirmity and/or the inability to read or write English, many of these good people unwittingly participated in a series of deliberate actions that compromised the integrity of the vote. Other voters, neither aged nor infirm, with the ability to read and write English, knowingly and deliberately participated in actions that also compromised the integrity of the vote. A third group of citizens, who no longer resided in Schererville and who in no way personally participated in the Schererville election, but whose votes were nonetheless cast, were simply victims of fraud.

Believing firmly that elections belong to the sovereign people and that it is the court's solemn duty to protect the people, and those who stand as candidates for election, from fraud and unlawfulness in the electoral process, I found, as a matter of law, that the Recount Commission had utilized an improper standard of review and, therefore, I voided the Certificate of Recount filed by the Recount Commission. Believing, too, that the court's overriding responsibility in an election recount or contest is to determine which candidate actually received the majority of the legally cast votes, I found that the twenty-three (23) absentee votes cast for Respondent Riga were invalid and that Petitioner Anderson was the legally elected Democratic nominee for the position of Town Judge of Schererville, Indiana.

To my mind, this case stands as a highlight because, as the result of my decision, and the decision in an earlier election contest concerning the Democratic mayoral primary in East Chicago, Lake County and the State of Indiana began the slow and arduous task of election reform. I believe that by taking a strong position against fraud and electoral business as usual, and by standing firm for the sanctity of the process and against the usual and customary practice of illegal absentee vote gathering, I made some, albeit small, contribution to the cause of election reform. A commission was formed. People were prosecuted. Laws were changed and, hopefully, the citizenry of Lake County garnered a bit more confidence in the election process.

3. *In Re the Matters of G.T.*, Cause Nos: 45D06-0202-JD-000159; 45D06-0302-JC-000117.

I believe that each juvenile case is significant because it impacts profoundly upon the child involved. I believe that the process and outcome of a CHINS case, a delinquency matter, a guardianship or an adoption will shape a child's future; and I have tried to build a juvenile court that understands, accepts and honors this serious responsibility. It is almost impossible to measure the importance of one CHINS case against another. To me, it is almost unthinkable to value one delinquency case above another. However, I offer the following three cases, not because new precedent was set or new law was made, but because of the important role the juvenile court played in the lives of these children.

The first child, G.T., obtained a handgun and shot her father in the head at point-blank range while he lay sleeping on February 2, 2002. On the day she shot and killed her father, G.T. was thirteen. Before that day, the evidence revealed, G.T.'s life was routinely punctuated by emotional and physical abuse. Her family was nomadic, moving from town to town, involved in petty crimes, scams and cons. They had moved to Indiana one step ahead of the Illinois Department of Family Services and had previously moved to Illinois but one step ahead of Texas law. G.T. had little education and could barely read. She had had no formal schooling in well over three years. She had no history of violent acts or attitudes. She was learning-disabled, emotionally handicapped and had an IQ of 71. Her father beat her. She was frequently confined to the house for inappropriately long periods of time with no access to school or contacts with acquaintances. She had no age-appropriate social skills, suffered from chronic depression, lacked of self-esteem and was afflicted with untreated chronic acne that was so scarring to her face that the police initially identified G.T. by the condition of her skin.

On the day G.T. shot her father, she took the gun and left the home. An officer reporting to the murder scene was told that G.T. was the suspect. Within a short period of time, the thirteen (13) year old was identified as she walked down the street. She was instructed to stop, to show her hands and, as he secured G.T., the officer asked where G.T. had dropped the gun. She told him.

G.T. was arrested. No Miranda warnings were given before or immediately after the officer inquired about the gun. Her mother, at the hospital with her father, was begrudgingly escorted to the station so the police could question G.T. At the station, G.T.'s mother had no interest in consulting with G.T. Although present when G.T. was advised of her rights and executed a waiver, mother simply instructed her daughter to talk to the police. Four officers were present when G.T. executed the waiver, yet neither the child's mother nor these officers read the waiver to the child or took any reasonable measure to ensure that the child understood the nature of her constitutional rights and the consequence of their waiver.

On February 4, 2002, the juvenile court found probable cause to believe that G.T. had committed a delinquent act and the Lake County Prosecutor filed a delinquency petition charging G.T. with attempted murder. On February 7, 2002, the petition was amended to a murder charge. During the following year, G.T. remained detained. Psychological evaluations were completed. Depositions were taken. Motions were filed. Among those motions was a request to suppress G.T.'s confession.

After hearing and giving due consideration to the evidence and argument, I suppressed G.T.'s confession. Without evidence sufficient to sustain an ongoing prosecution, the prosecutor dismissed the case. G.T. was immediately found to be a Child in Need of Services and was shortly placed in an out-of-state residential treatment program where, for over four years, she received and benefited from appropriate mental health care and treatment, and received an education.

Although sensational and salacious, G.T.'s case presents one of the perennial and most confounding issues I confront as a juvenile judge: How does the court fairly and conscientiously meet the needs of a delinquent child when abuse contributes significantly to the child's delinquent behavior? How does the court balance the abused delinquent child's need for treatment and protection against the community's own important, legitimate need for protection and punishment?

Simply put - many, many delinquent children are victims of abuse and many, many abused children have or will commit crimes. The causal connection between child abuse and delinquent activity is real; and one of the most pressing responsibilities of any juvenile court judge is to craft case dispositions to break this connection.

To what extent a child's history of abuse can or should explain, if not excuse, his delinquent behaviors is a serious question open for serious debate. However, committed to a justice system founded upon the belief that children are less culpable for their bad acts because of their tender age, I believe that justice for children must be founded upon a belief in personal growth, supported by a hope for redemption and grounded in mercy. Every case is decided upon the facts and every decision will impact a child's life.

4. *In Re the Matter of P.C.*, J85-1303 (1985).

The juvenile justice system was founded, in part, upon the belief that because children are less culpable for their bad acts, they should not be subject to the same pains and penalties as adults. Acknowledging that, with age, children grow less impulsive, more conscientious, and more aware of their responsibilities to family, to society and to themselves; juvenile courts have, historically, afforded opportunities for a child's treatment and rehabilitation rather than the child's punishment and exclusion. There are, however, exceptions and children of a certain age, and certain

disposition, having committed certain crimes, may be required to meet society's justice as would an adult.

The determination of when certain juveniles are simply beyond the rehabilitative philosophy of the juvenile court is one of the most important decisions that a juvenile court judge can make. I have been called on to make this decision many, many times. However, my decision to waive P.C. to adult court set in motion a legal odyssey that brought worldwide attention to P.C.'s criminal case and cause, resulted in an amendment to the Indiana Code establishing the minimum age limits for the imposition of the death penalty, at that time, at age sixteen (16), and culminated in a decision by the Indiana Supreme Court recognizing that both state and federal constitutional law prohibited P.C.'s execution.

On May 15, 1985, P.C., and three friends, plotted to rob a 78 year old bible teacher in her Gary, Indiana, home. Feigning interest in attending bible study classes, the four teens spoke to the teacher at her door, but could not gain entry. Undaunted, P.C. obtained a knife from one of her companions, and the four teenagers tried again. The children asked the elderly woman if she would write down the dates and times of the bible study and, when the victim turned her attention to this task, P.C. grabbed her from behind, pushed her to the floor and struck her repeatedly with a vase. As the woman begged P.C. to spare her life, P.C. pulled the knife and began to stab her. The coroner reported that the bible teacher had been stabbed thirty-three (33) times. The children searched the house, took ten (\$10.00) dollars in cash and make their escape in the victim's car. The crime was discovered and the teenagers were detained. On that day of her detention hearing, P.C. was just fifteen.

Despite her young age, the State of Indiana sought to waive the jurisdiction of the juvenile court in order to try P.C. as an adult. To that end, I convened a waiver hearing on June 26, 1985. Whether the burden is upon the State to prove that the child is beyond rehabilitation, or whether, given the child's age and the nature of the alleged crime, the appropriateness of the waiver is statutorily presumed, a juvenile court judge carries a heavy burden. How do you determine, with any precision or certainty, a child's potential for positive growth or his amenability to care and treatment? How can you stand true to the founding principles of juvenile justice while providing for the safety of the community? Of course, I, like my colleagues, while searching for these answers, look to the child's history, his school achievements, his family dynamic. We examine his prior cases with the court to see whether earlier interventions were successful or whether, and why, those interventions failed. We look to the nature of the alleged crime.

I wish I could point to a bright line that explained why I found that P.C. could not be successfully rehabilitated in the juvenile system. Knowing this child could be sentenced to death for her crimes added weight to an already weighty deliberative process. Just as Judge Kimbrough weighed the aggravating and mitigating circumstances when he sentenced P.C. to die, I too found aggravating factors — those

supporting the proposition that this child was beyond juvenile court's ability to effectuate rehabilitation — outweighed the facts that mitigated in her favor. Although P.C. was only fifteen (15) when she brutally and intentionally killed an elderly woman for ten (\$10.00) dollars in cash and a ride in a car, and although she had no prior criminal history, on June 26, 1985, I waived the jurisdiction of the Lake County Juvenile Court.

As an adult, on June 28, 1985, P.C. was charged with murder and felony murder. Without the benefit of a plea agreement, on April 21, 1986, she pled guilty to both charges. On July 11, 1986, following a sentencing hearing, the Honorable Judge James Kimbrough imposed the death penalty on P.C. Immediately, national and international attention focused upon P.C.'s case and, for the most part concerned voices spoke to the propriety, constitutionality and morality of executing this child for a heinous crime committed when she was fifteen (15). As P.C.'s automatic appeal to the Supreme Court was pending, in direct response to P.C.'s sentence, the Indiana General Assembly passed legislation. This legislation prohibited the execution of a child under the age of sixteen (16) and established that if the defendant was under eighteen (18) when the murder was committed, age would serve as a mitigating factor at sentencing. Specifically, however, the amendments did not apply to any death sentence imposed before September 1, 1987, and, therefore, did not apply to P.C. As Indiana's legislative branch reacted, so too did the executive branch of our government. Under direct appeal from the Pope, Governor Robert Orr commented that while the direct appeal to the Indiana Supreme Court was pending, he would not intercede. Additionally, prior to the Indiana Supreme Court's consideration of P.C.'s case, the United States Supreme Court weighed in on the issue of executing minors. In *Thompson v. Oklahoma*, 487 U.S. 815 (1988), a majority of the Court decided that the State of Oklahoma could not execute a child who committed a brutal murder at the age of fifteen (15). As Chief Justice Shepard noted in *Cooper v. State*, 540 N.E.2d 1216 (Ind. 1989), the legal landscape surrounding the death penalty issue had recently, significantly changed reflecting society's rejection.

Almost twenty-one (21) years ago, the Indiana Supreme Court vacated P.C.'s death sentence and remanded her case with instructions to enter a sentence of sixty (60) years. P.C. is now forty. While incarcerated, she graduated from high school and from college and has successfully completed various programs and educational opportunities afforded her while in prison. While P.C. has been in prison, the courts and the country have continued to struggle with issues of children and the appropriateness of certain punishments. A plurality of the *Thompson* Court found that the nation's standards of decency did not permit the execution of a child under the age of sixteen (16), yet a year later the Court held that the Constitution did not prohibit the execution of a child who was over the age of fifteen (15). Then, sixteen (16) years later, the Court held that when an individual under the age of eighteen (18) commits a heinous crime, the State can exact a forfeiture of all basic liberties, but the State cannot take the child's life.

Of course the debate continues. Just this year the United States Supreme Court again took up the issue, holding that the imposition of a life sentence without the possibility of parole upon a child under the age of eighteen (18) was cruel and unusual punishment. I believe the mission of the juvenile court and I believe in the notion that usually children are less culpable because of their tender age. In the past six years, the Lake County Juvenile Court has considered two hundred and twenty (220) requests to waive juvenile court jurisdiction. Every time I take up this consideration, I think about the lessons I have learned.

5. *In Re the Matters of B.G. and L.G.*, 45D06-0305-JC-000213, 45D06-0305-JC-000212 and *In Re the Termination of the Parent Child Relationship of B.G. and L.G.*, 46D06-0503-JT-000044; 45D06-0503-JT-000043.

On March 31, 2003, B.G.'s mother took her to the doctor. The doctor sent the child to the hospital and the hospital diagnosed sexual abuse. B.G.'s vaginal and rectal injuries were severe and she suffered from advanced venereal disease. She was bruised and battered and the medical evidence suggested a long history of sexual maltreatment. B.G. was only seven years old.

She told her doctor that the perpetrator was her father. She told her mother, too. Her mother did not believe her. Mother was quick to defend and took immediate steps to protect her implicated husband, and mother told her daughters to keep family secrets to themselves or their father would go to jail.

Both B.G. and her younger sister were removed from their parents care and placed in foster care. Social services designed to rehabilitate this family were ordered by the court and provided to the parents. Yet nothing changed. Even in the face of overwhelming evidence, father claimed his innocence, mother supported her husband and the children remained in foster care. Although the sexual abuse had stopped and her body had healed, B.G. struggled with deep emotional scars.

B.G. was psychologically unable to testify against her father at his criminal trial and the charges were dismissed. She regressed further and, at times, no one was sure whether this child could be salvaged and saved. While B.G. struggled for survival, her parents chose to avoid and evade efforts to help their family by filing sham divorces and proposing fraudulent relative placements. At the appropriate time, the Department of Child Services filed its petitions to terminate parental rights. The prosecution of this civil action was made difficult because B.G. had all but closed down and could not speak about the abuse at her father's hand. Because mother was an accountant and father was an engineer, they had the financial resources to mount a significant defense.

CHINS cases are hard cases; there is no other way to say it and there is no real way to explain. When you think you have seen the worst, most heinous, most depraved, another child sits in your courtroom, the victim of greater sin. In good

times and in bad, in affluent homes and in the housing projects, because of drugs, drink, cyclical abuse and evil, children are abused. This case stands testament to these facts. It also stands to illustrate that child abuse knows no cultural, class or economic boundaries. Turn over a rock, look behind a closed door and child abuse can be found in every community.

After four days of trial, I terminated parental rights. The evidence was clear and the evidence was convincing. Although neither child had face-to-face or telephonic contact with their father since March 2003, the children had continued to regularly visit with their mother in a supervised visitation center until rights were terminated in December 2006. Once this visitation stopped, B.G. started to emotionally heal.

G. Provide the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three attorneys who have been your professional adversaries in your practice or who have litigated substantial cases in your court and who would be in positions to comment on your qualifications for appointment to the Indiana Supreme Court.

Mr. Thomas E. Rucinski Attorney at Law	Sachs & Hess, P.C. 7880 Wicker Avenue, Ste. 201 St. John, IN 46373	(219) 932-6070
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Mr. Richard W. Maroc Attorney at Law	303 Ridge Road Munster, IN 46321	(219) 844-6372
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Mr. Nick Thiros Attorney at Law	Thiros & Stracci 200 East 90 th Drive Merrillville, IN 46410	(219) 769-1600
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VII. A. Describe your efforts, achievements, or contributions (including written work, speeches, or presentations) toward the improvement of the law, the legal system, or the administration of justice.

Over the past 28 years, I have been appointed by both Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard and Governor Mitch Daniels to serve on many committees and commissions to examine and improve juvenile justice and ancillary issues in the State of Indiana. It has been a privilege to work alongside many juvenile justice experts from around the country to improve the delivery of services and programs to the children and families of Indiana. I have also had the distinct honor of appearing in three documentaries, created and produced by Calamari Productions of Indianapolis, highlighting the compelling issues facing families and teenagers in our communities. Below, please find what I consider the highlights of my efforts to improve the law, the legal system and the administration of justice in the best interests of children.

1. Indiana Child Welfare Improvement Committee

In 2009, Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard appointed me to serve as Chairperson of the Indiana Child Welfare Improvement Committee. I continue to serve as Chairperson today. In this role, I, along with other judges from across the State and staff attorneys from the Indiana Judicial Center, identify important issues facing the juvenile system and develop plans to address these issues and improve the system. Additionally, we make suggestions to judges with juvenile jurisdiction as to how best to implement new programs, procedures and practices in their own counties. For example, we are currently addressing the special issues related to children who are involved in the juvenile court system in two capacities: as a Child in Need of Services and as a delinquent. As the court exercises dual jurisdiction over these children, it is important that the court systems provide each child with appropriate services and a continuity of care. To that end, the Committee is developing a protocol which assists judges in handling these dual jurisdictional matters. We are in the process of identifying three counties for a pilot project to demonstrate and test the appropriateness of an identified system of care for these children.

2. Commission on Disproportionality in Youth Services

In 2008, I was asked to serve as a Commissioner on the Governor's Commission on Disproportionality in Youth Services. I was honored to accept Governor Daniels' appointment. There were 33 commissioners and we met monthly. Our charge was to critically examine service delivery to children of color in four crucial areas: mental health, juvenile justice, child welfare, and education. Divided into subgroups, the Commissioners and other interested individuals, met to first delve deeper into the issues and next to discuss possible solutions. We held public meetings and stakeholder meetings in numerous sites across Indiana. The Commission's hard work, shaped by the input of Indiana citizens throughout the State, resulted in an eighty-seven (87) page report with specific recommendations as to how to best address disproportionality in the provision of social and judicial services to children of color. As a result of the Commission's work, I helped plan and present a two-day summit in August 2009, examining the disproportionate number of minority children contacts with law enforcement and proposing solutions. From that effort, Indiana was given the opportunity to participate in the Annie Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative. Currently, Marion County is a Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative site and has, as a result of the County's work with the Annie Casey Foundation, dramatically reduced the number of children in detention. Four other counties have been chosen to participate in the initiative and are preparing to implement the program by year's end. Other important initiatives developing around the State address the disproportionate number of minority children in the child welfare system and in the CHINS courts. We continue to study how to provide effective, appropriate and nondiscriminatory services to these children.

3. Indiana Juvenile Justice Committee

Over the past 17 years, I have had the privilege to serve on the Indiana Juvenile Justice Committee. This committee, comprised of judges who exercise juvenile jurisdiction throughout the State, examines and comments on proposed legislation that impacts Indiana's children and their families. On behalf of the Committee, I have been called upon to testify before the legislature on pending legislation. Committed to the improvement of the judicial process, the Committee also entertains requests, ideas, concerns and issues from all state agencies that are stakeholders. We work closely with individuals on the front lines of mental health, child welfare, juvenile justice and education in an effort to cooperatively address the multidisciplinary issues at hand. As a Committee member, I attend monthly meetings and frequently present on current issues at the annual Juvenile and Family Court Judges Conference.

4. Juvenile Benchbook Committee

From 1988 to 1993, I served on the Juvenile Benchbook Committee. This committee, composed of judges and magistrates from throughout the State, examines the actual mechanics of court practices and procedures in ninety-two (92) counties in an effort to formulate juvenile court best practices. After examination, modifications, additions, and deletions are made to the Benchbook. Additionally, as laws change, the Benchbook Committee makes the necessary and appropriate adjustments to the standard forms and insures that the new practices, law and procedures make their way into all juvenile courtrooms in the State. As needed, new Juvenile Benchbooks are provided to judges at the annual conference.

5. Minor Consent to Health Care Presentations

Twice in 2009, I presented on the subject of Minor Consent to Health Care in Indiana, first at the Indiana School of Social Work Association's Annual Fall Conference and, subsequently, at the 44th Annual Riley Hospital Multidisciplinary Child Health Care Conference, Indiana University School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics. These presentations focused upon a minor's right to consent or the minor's need for parental consent in a wide variety of medical and psychological situations.

6. Juvenile Justice Documentaries

Additionally, in 2009, the Juvenile Division of the Lake Superior Court and the Lake County Detention Center were featured in a six-part docu-series on MSNBC. For the second time, the Indiana Supreme Court allowed cameras into my courtroom to witness and document delinquency proceedings. With the dual goal of bringing transparency to a, heretofore, opaque juvenile justice system and educating both children and parents to the stark realities of juvenile justice, the lives of children

accused of crimes and their families were documented as the delinquency cases worked their way through the juvenile system. These were also the goals of the first episodic documentary spotlighting the workings of a modern juvenile court – MTV's "Juvies", an eight-part series filmed in 2007, which examined the lives of sixteen children and their families who were caught up in the juvenile justice system.

7. Lake County Community Transition Program

In 2002, Lake County, Indiana had the distinct honor of being the first county in Indiana to implement a juvenile offender early release program with the Indiana Department of Correction. I, along with IDOC leadership, designed and developed what became known as the Community Transition Program for juvenile offenders. This is how the program works. Because most acts of juvenile delinquency are born from a problematic family system, from the day the child is committed to the Department of Correction (DOC), he and his family are assigned to an agency in our community designated to provide social services to the family even while the child serves his sentence. This service provider works hand-in-hand with the child's DOC case manager and together this team of social service professionals prepares the child and his family for his release. Examples of services provided to families are parenting classes, substance abuse treatment and counseling. If both the child and the family cooperate and are successful with services, the child is released sixty (60) days early and returned home or to a step-down facility in Lake County. Services, provided to both the child and his family, upon the child's release, are counseling, drug therapy, support groups, GED classes, job placement assistance and many others.

This program has been far more successful than anticipated. When we began, the recidivism rate for juvenile offenders in the DOC was 20%. The first year of the program yielded a ten (10%) percent reduction in the recidivism rate for Lake County's children. As a result of our collaborative efforts, the Lake County Community Transition Program has been replicated in numerous counties across the State.

8. Other Activities

During my tenures as Magistrate and Senior Judge, I have presented at, and participated in, numerous programs, from judicial conferences to Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs, both locally and statewide. I respectfully refer you to the following, but not exhaustive, list of presentations and contributions I have made toward the improvement of the legal system as it relates to children and their families.

Third National Judicial Leadership Summit <i>On the Protection of Children, Austin, Texas</i>	2009 - Present
Child Welfare Subgroup <i>Commission on Disproportionality in Youth Services Coordination Board</i>	2009 - Present
MSNBC Lockup Special Investigation “Lake County Juvenile” <i>Episodic documentary broadcasted on MSNBC</i>	2009
MTV “Juvies” <i>Episodic documentary broadcasted on MTV</i>	2007
MSNBC “In the Best Interest of a Child” <i>Documentary on abused and neglected children broadcasted on MSNBC</i>	2000
Barriers to Permanency <i>Indiana Judicial Center, Annual Meeting for Judicial Officers</i>	2010
Mental Health Pilot Projects <i>Indiana Judicial Center, Annual Meeting for Judicial Officers</i>	2009
Minor Consent to Health Care in Indiana <i>Indiana School Social Work Association’s Annual Fall Conference</i>	2009
Minors, Consent and Sexual Health: Understanding The Law - Past, Present and Future <i>44th Annual Riley Hospital Multidisciplinary Child Healthcare Conf. Indiana Univ. School of Medicine Dept. of Pediatrics and Riley Hosp.</i>	2009
HEA 1001, Impact on the Courts <i>Indiana Judicial Center, Annual Meeting for Judicial Officers</i>	2008
Applied Professionalism Course for Newly Admitted Attorneys <i>New Lawyers’ Seminar, Lake County Bar Association</i>	2007 & 2008
Report on Regional Service Councils <i>Indiana Judicial Center, Annual Meeting for Judicial Officers</i>	2006

Lake County GAL Training Seminar <i>Lake County Superior Courts</i>	2006
Commitment to DOC <i>Indiana Judicial Center, Annual Meeting for Judicial Officers</i>	2005
Protecting our Communities, Strengthening our Families Developing our Youth <i>Indiana Correctional Association</i>	2005
Families in Crises: Movement Towards Action <i>Calumet College of St. Joseph</i>	2005
Families in Crises: Faith Based Responses <i>Calumet College of St. Joseph</i>	2004
Dealing with Serious Delinquents <i>Indiana Judicial Center, Annual Meeting for Judicial Officers</i>	2003
Juvenile Justice <i>Bank Calumet – Ladies Spring Luncheon</i>	2003
In a Child's Best Interest <i>Indiana Judicial Center, Annual Meeting for Judicial Officers</i>	2002
Court Case Flow <i>Indiana Judicial Center, Annual Meeting for Judicial Officers</i>	2000
St. Catherine's Hospital 22nd Annual Master Lecture <i>Series in Appreciation of Didactic Excellence</i>	1999

B. Describe your efforts, achievements, or contributions (including written work, speeches, or presentations) concerning civic, political, or social issues.

The Superior Court Judges in the Juvenile, Criminal, and Civil Divisions in Lake County are not elected but are chosen through the merit selection process. As a result, judges are prohibited from participating in political speech. As it relates to civic or social issues, nearly every speech and presentation I have made over the past twenty-eight (28) years has involved social issues, be it about children born out of wedlock, warning signs of sexual abuse, or the disproportionate minority contact with law enforcement. Therefore, I respectfully refer you to Section VII. A. for a list of efforts, contributions, and achievements I have made in this regard.

C. List any memberships and offices you have held in civic or charitable organizations, including dates and descriptions of the purposes of the organizations and of your involvement.

Gary Education Leadership Council, Gary, Indiana 2008 - Present
Member

As a member I participate in roundtable discussions on how to improve the educational system for the children and citizens of Gary, Indiana.

Bishop Noll Institute, Hammond, IN 2002 - 2008
Trustee

As a trustee, I exercised oversight of budget, donations, teaching staff and student recruitment efforts. I also participated in the review of policy and procedures pertaining to the successful operation of a parochial high school.

Calumet College of Saint Joseph, Whiting, IN 2002 - Present
Law Enforcement Advisory Board Member

As a member of the Advisory Board, I participate in a think tank with the goal of identifying educational and supportive needs of law enforcement personnel in Northwest Indiana and the Greater Chicagoland area.

Local Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup 2009 - Present
Member

As a member of this work group, I work closely with area high schools to design and implement assessment tools that educators can use to determine trends in illicit and prescription drug use among high school students and to design and implement prevention tools also to be implemented in Lake County high schools.

Regional Mental Health Association, Lake County, IN 1996 - 2005
Board Member 2007- Present

As a Board Member, I exercise oversight of budget and operations of the largest community mental health provider in Lake County.

Mental Health America of Lake County 1995 - Present
Board Member

As a Board Member, I exercise oversight of budget and operations for this organization whose mission is to broker and provide mental health services.

Boys and Girls Club of America, Lake County 1993 - Present
Board Member

Youth of the Year Committee 1995 - 2007

As a Board Member, I exercise oversight of budget and programming for clubs in Northwest Indiana. Additionally, as a member of the Youth of the Year Committee, I participated in the selection of the Youth of the Year, a distinguished young club member who would go on to represent Lake County in the statewide competition.

- Dunes Environmental Learning Center, Porter, IN** 2002 - 2005
Board Member
 As a Board Member, I exercised oversight of programming, development and implementation of environmental education programs.
- Girl Scouts of America, Drifting Dunes Council** 1993 - 1995
Board Member
 As a Board Member, I exercised oversight of budget, programming, and development for the girl scouting community of Lake County.
- St. Maria Goretti Roman Catholic Church, Dyer, IN**
Parishioner
- D. List any memberships and offices you have held in professional organizations, including dates and descriptions of the purposes of the organizations and of your involvement.
- American Correctional Association** 2003 - Present
Member
 A professional association for people working in the field of corrections
- National Association of Women Judges** 2001 - Present
Member
 A professional association for women judges addressing judicial issues pertinent to and impacting specifically on women
- American Judges Association** 1994 - Present
Member
 A professional association addressing issues pertinent to and impacting upon judges
- American Bar Association** 1993 - Present
Member
 A national professional association for lawyers
- Indiana Judges Association** 1993 - Present
Board of Managers 1997 - 2007
 A professional organization working on behalf of Indiana judges
- American Judicature Society** 1993 - Present
Member
 Nonpartisan national organization addressing the administration of justice

Indiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges	1982 - Present
<i>Board of Directors</i>	2008 - Present
<i>Past President</i>	2000 - 2002
<i>Treasurer</i>	1998 - 2000

A professional association addressing the issues and working on behalf of Indiana's juvenile and family court judges

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges	1982 - Present
<i>Trustee</i>	1998 - 2001

A national professional association addressing the issues and working on behalf of juvenile and family court judges

Indiana State Bar Association	1981 - Present
<i>Civil Rights of Children Committee, Chair</i>	2008 - Present
<i>House of Delegates, Member at Large</i>	2008 - Present
<i>Mental Health Advisory Board</i>	2006 - Present
<i>Family & Juvenile Law Committee</i>	1998 - Present

A professional organization for Indiana lawyers

Lake County Bar Association	1981 - Present
<i>Member</i>	

A professional organization for Lake County, Indiana, lawyers

E. List any memberships you hold in social clubs or organizations. If any restrict its membership on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin, please describe your efforts within the organization to eliminate restrictions.

My husband, _____, and I are members of Innsbrook Country Club in Merrillville, Indiana. To the best of my knowledge, this golf club does not practice discrimination or restriction of membership based on race, sex, religion or national origin.

E. Indicate your experience teaching law, and provide the dates, names of institutions or programs, and a description of the subject matter taught.

Criminal Law	Calumet College of St. Joseph	Dr. Alan Brown, Esquire
<i>Guest Lecturer</i>		Professor
Spring, 2007		

Criminal Law	Calumet College of St. Joseph	Mr. Gary Bell
<i>Guest Lecturer</i>		Assistant U.S. Attorney
2007		Professor

Juvenile Law
Guest Lecturer
2007 – 2009

Purdue University,
Northwest Campus

Judge Julie Cantrell
Professor

Juvenile
& Criminal Law
Guest Lecturer
Spring, 2008

Indiana University,
Northwest

G. Describe your hobbies and other leisure activities.

Coming from a large Italian-American family, I was fortunate to learn to cook from a master – my paternal grandmother. I inherited her passion for cooking, although I constantly strive to achieve her level of excellence. As a consequence, I love to cook for my family and friends. I also love to bake. As it turns out, baking has become my outlet, my therapy. I am pretty good at it, too!

I also enjoy golfing with my son and husband. I dabble at riding a bicycle on perfect, sunny, windless days with my husband. During winter months, I knit scarves and afghans, the only two items I am good at, for Christmas gifts.

Most of all, I enjoy spending time with my family every chance I get.

VIII. A. Provide names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three professional references other than those listed in Section VI. G.

The Honorable Joseph Van Bokkelen Judge	US District Court for the Northern District of Indiana 5400 Federal Plaza, Suite 4200 Hammond, IN 46320	(219) 852-6720
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The Honorable Diane Boswell Judge	Lake Superior Court Room 3 2293 North Main Street Crown Point, IN 46307	(219) 755-3502
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The Honorable Jon DeGuilio Judge	US District Court for the Northern District of Indiana Robert A Grant Federal Building 204 South Main Street, Room 102 South Bend, IN 46602	(574) 246-8177
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B. Provide names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three personal references other than those listed in VI. G.

Mr. Robert Lauer	18613 Willow Lane Lansing, IL 60438	(312) 405-4886
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Mr. Robert Vellutini	2040 Ramblewood Dr. Highland, IN 46322	(219) 738-6482
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Ms. Edwina Golec	10124 Erie Place Highland, IN 46322	(219) 924-7477
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C. List any lawsuits or legal proceedings in any jurisdiction, including bankruptcies and dissolutions, to which you have been a party. Provide dates, case numbers, names of other parties, and, if needed, a brief explanation.

1. *Anderson v. Bonaventura, et al.*, Cause No.: 45D08-9310-SC-03938, filed October 5, 1993.

Small claims matter involving family business concerns. Matter resolved on February 8, 1994.

2. *Thorpe v. State of Indiana, et al.*, Cause No.: 45C01-9507-CT-01339, filed July 31, 1995.

Tort claim filed against the State of Indiana, the County of Lake and over twenty-six (26) elected and appointed officials.

3. *Lake Superior Court, Juvenile Division v. Lake County, Indiana Board of Commissioners, et al.*, 45D06-9602-JM-00841-0 (45S00-9602-SJ-183), filed February 1996.

Seeking funds for the construction of a new juvenile justice complex, on behalf of the juvenile court, I caused to be filed on February 22, 1996, an Order of Mandate requiring the Lake County Commissioners to show cause why sufficient funding should not be appropriated and paid for the construction of a juvenile justice facility. After months of negotiation and eventual litigation, on March 18, 1998, Special Judge David P. Matsey ordered the Lake County Commissioners to pay a sum not exceeding \$21,875,000.00 to construct and furnish a new juvenile justice complex.

4. *In Re the Guardianship of* _____, Cause No.: 45C01-9702-GU-14, *granted* February 21, 1997.

I was the petitioner in this action to obtain guardianship over my soon-to-be son,

5. *In Re the Adoption of* _____, Cause No.: 45C01-9904-AD-00026, *granted* September 24, 1999.

My husband, _____, and I petitioned for the adoption of _____

6. *Heiser v. Bonaventura*, Cause No.: 2:02-CV-409-RL, United States District Court, Northern District, Indiana *filed* 2001.

Ex-employee filed discrimination claim in federal court on or about October 5, 2002. Plaintiff was Judith Heiser who names me, individually and in my capacity of Superior Court Judge, as defendant. Upon defendant's motion for Summary Judgment, judgment was entered for the defendant and against the plaintiff and the matter was dismissed with prejudice on November 3, 2004. Plaintiff did not appeal.

7. *McNair v. Lake County*, Cause No.: 2:99-CV-242-RL-2, United States District Court, Northern District, Indiana, *filed* October 2002.

Ex-employee filed wrongful firing and discrimination claim in federal court. Plaintiff was Tiyi-Kitani McNair. She filed suit against Lake County and the Lake County Board of Commissioners. Thereafter, Lake County and the Board of Commissioners cross claimed as against me individually and in my representative capacity as Director of the Lake County Juvenile Center. Upon defendants' motion for Summary Judgment, judgment was entered for the defendants and against the plaintiff. The original matter and cross-complaints were dismissed.

8. *Northern Indiana Neurological Institute, P.C. v. Medved et al.*, 45D08-0907-SC-05073, *filed* July 14, 2009.

Suit filed for the collection of a medical bill that had been previously paid. Case was dismissed on August 26, 2009.

- C. If you ever have been arrested or cited for any violation of the law other than for routine traffic violations, provide dates, jurisdictions, and an explanation of the event and its resolution.

I have never been arrested or cited for any violation of the law other than a routine traffic violation.

- D. If you are or have been a member of the Bar of any other state, identify the jurisdiction and provide dates.

I am not now, nor have I ever been, a member of the Bar of any state other than Indiana.

- F. If you have been disciplined or cautioned, formally or informally, by the Indiana Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission, by the Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualifications, by the Indiana Supreme Court, or by similar entities in any other jurisdiction, identify each instance by date, case number if applicable, and describe the circumstances and the nature of the outcome or resolution.

I have never been disciplined or cautioned by the Indiana Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission, by the Indiana Commission on Judicial Qualification, by the Indiana Supreme Court, or by any similar entity in any other jurisdiction.

- G. If you have any outstanding federal, state, or local tax obligations, please itemize and explain.

I have no outstanding tax obligations.

- IX. A. Attach a recent statement from your physician describing your general physical condition.

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- B. Within the past three years, have you been diagnosed or treated for an emotional or mental condition or illness, including any condition that involves treatment for drug or alcohol use? If so, provide the dates of assessment and/or treatment and the names and addresses of your doctors or other treatment providers.

- C. Are you able to perform the essential functions of Justice on the Indiana Supreme Court, with or without accommodation?

Yes, I am able, without restriction or accommodation, to perform all functions of an Indiana Supreme Court Justice.

6/26/2010
DATE

Mary Beth Bonaventura
APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

Mary Beth Bonaventura
PRINTED NAME

WAIVER AND STATEMENT OF CONSENT

The undersigned applicant authorizes the release to the Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission or its staff or agents any records, reports, and documents, whether or not otherwise confidential, which may be requested by the Commission in the performance of its evaluations of candidates pursuant to I.C. § 33-27-3-2. The scope of this authorization extends to, but is not necessarily limited to, requests from the Commission for Federal, State or local tax records, criminal and driving histories from any jurisdiction, attorney and judicial disciplinary records from any jurisdiction, whether pending or closed, and credit reports and histories. The undersigned releases and discharges the Judicial Nominating Commission, its individual members, its employees, agents and representatives, the Indiana State Police, the Indiana Department of Revenue, the Indiana Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission and any other agency or person or their agents or representatives providing information to the Commission from any and all liability arising from the furnishing and use of information concerning the undersigned applicant.

The undersigned agrees and understands that the Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission or its members, agents, or employees, may interview or otherwise consult with members of the legal, judicial, and general community concerning the professional qualifications and the integrity of the applicant, that the name of the applicant will be released by the Commission upon its receipt of the application and this waiver, and that if, pursuant to I.C. § 33-27-3-2(d), the applicant is given further consideration as a candidate after the Commission's initial screening of candidates, or if no such screening occurs and all applicants are considered, the application will be made public. This waiver does not constitute an election by the applicant pursuant to I.C. § 33-27-3-2(g)(3)(C) to authorize the release of investigatory records which are excepted from public inspection pursuant to I.C. § 33-27-3-2(g)(1) and (2).

The undersigned agrees to immediately supplement this application upon any event or circumstance substantially affecting any answer provided in the application.

The undersigned acknowledges having read the Instructions attached to the application.

The undersigned agrees to resign from office or membership in any political organization upon submission of this application.

The undersigned affirms that, if nominated by the Judicial Nominating Commission to the Governor and thereafter appointed to this judicial office, the candidate will accept the appointment.

6/26/2010
DATE

Mary Beth Bonaventura
APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

Mary Beth Bonaventura
PRINTED NAME